

Joint Committee

Ym F. Chrono file

20 March 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

**SUBJECT: DCI and DDCI Meeting with Senator Richard Russell -
19 March 1962**

1. The Director, accompanied by General Carter and John S. Warner, met with Senator Russell with Bill Darden present for approximately 45 minutes beginning at 4:30 on 19 March. The basic purpose was to introduce General Carter to Senator Russell. There was the usual exchange of pleasantries with Senator Russell indicating he thought the Committee would be able to have the confirmation hearing on the 22nd at 10:30 and he expected it to be a pro forma hearing.

2. The Director then discussed with Senator Russell the substance of the conversations which came at the conclusion of the Senate Foreign Relations hearing on 6 March which dealt with the Powers matter. The DCI pointed out that Senator Fulbright had raised the basic problem of the Foreign Relations Committee being informed concerning CIA activities since in many ways these influenced and affected the conduct of foreign affairs. Senator Fulbright discussed the McCarthy resolution which was before the Committee which was designed to establish a Joint Committee on Intelligence. Fulbright made passing reference to the fate of the previous resolution on this subject by Senator Mansfield in 1956. The Director stated he believed that the Chairman was stating a legitimate cause of concern and suggested that the establishment of a Joint Committee would compound the problem rather than solve it. He pointed out that probably, as in the case of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, such a Joint Committee would hold unto itself information concerning intelligence matters and, therefore, the Foreign Relations Committee would

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certainly not receive the information which it thought it should receive. Senator Lausche joined in this discussion pointing out that he certainly could not get any information on atomic energy from the Joint Committee.

3. The Director then advised Senator Russell that he had suggested to Senator Fulbright some informal arrangement whereby one or two members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee could sit with the CIA Subcommittee of Senate Armed Services thus gaining some knowledge. Mr. McCone indicated he had talked this problem over with the President. Senator Russell stated that he had been coping with this problem for a lot many more years than Mr. McCone. He stated he had no personal objection to Senator Fulbright knowing about these matters but such an informal solution did raise other problems. He was very candid in his assessment of what Republican member could possibly sit. He further pointed out that in the future no one could foresee who from the Foreign Relations Committee might sit in this relationship with the Armed Services Subcommittee.

4. Senator Russell made it absolutely clear that he was strongly opposed to the Joint Committee concept and all that this would imply including the probability of a large staff. The Senator stated that clearly there were enough votes to defeat a Joint Committee resolution particularly when one took into account the Senate Appropriations Committee with its large membership (22 or 23 members). He indicated that if the Foreign Relations Committee were to report out McCarthy's resolution he could take steps to have it referred back to Armed Services for further consideration (which presumably would mean no action). Senator Russell stated he would talk with Senator Fulbright indicating that Mr. McCone had raised this subject with him, that is the subject which had been discussed at the Foreign Relations Committee meeting. He made it clear, however, that he was not going to propose any solution and it was equally clear that he was not pleased with the prospect of several members of Foreign Relations sitting with the CIA Subcommittee. Mr. McCone indicated that he wished the Senator would talk with Fulbright and agreed that no specific action should be proposed and that this matter should be given very careful consideration.

5. Senator Russell had reviewed some of the actions of the Subcommittee in the past including the fact that no reference to meetings was made in the RECORD but that this had been changed.

Mr. Warner at this point raised the question with the Chairman of whether or not it would be desirable to have the Committee issue a report concerning the Agency for the 87th Congress. Senator Russell indicated this had not been done, of course, in the past but that he thought under the circumstances it would be a good idea. Senator Russell then requested Mr. Warner to draft such a report suggesting that he work with Bill Darden looking toward a final draft. The Senator indicated it would be difficult to say too much in such a report and I added that we lawyers were good at that which caused a few smiles.

6. Senator Russell offered his best wishes for success to General Carter commenting on the complexity of the Agency's activities and the challenging job which General Carter would have.

s/ John S. Warner

JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

cc: IG

OGC/LC Subject - CIA Sub. of Senate Armed Services
OGC/LC Chrono.

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